

ARTICLES
AND
ORDERS,

Agreed upon by the

Amicable SOCIETY

At the ^K*Rose* in *Cheapside*,
LONDON.

London. Amicable Society &c



L O N D O N:

Printed by J. OLIVER, in *Bartholomew's*
Clofe. MDCCLVII,





The AMICABLE SOCIETY at the Rose in Cheapside, London ; first established the 14th Day of March, 1750-1, meeting every Thursday Evening throughout the Year ; the following ARTICLES and ORDERS were agreed to, and ordered to be Re-printed, by the Persons whose Names are hereunto subscribed, the 16th Day of June, 1757.

ARTICLE I.

THAT the Hours of Meeting shall be from Seven to Ten on every *Thursday* Evening throughout the Year ; and that each Member on his Admittance shall pay *Three Guineas* to the Stock, for increasing a Fund, and *Threepence* towards the Expence of the House ; and every Week afterwards *Ninepence* to the Stock, and *Threepence* to be expended that Evening ; and every absent Member to be charged with the like Sum of *One Shilling*, to be applied as aforesaid : Which Arrears he shall pay, or cause to be paid, into the Hands of the Stewards, on or before the Sixth Club Night, or be excluded.

N. B. No Member shall be reimbursed any Moneys he shall have paid into the Stock, for any absent Member.

II.

T H A T two Stewards shall be chosen Quarterly, according to their Seniority ; and such Person or Persons so chosen, refusing to serve the said Office, shall forfeit *Ten Shillings and Sixpence* each, to be added to the Stock for the Benefit of the Society, and the next Member on the List to be chosen in his Room.

III.

T H A T the Landlord of the House shall keep one of the Keys of the Box, and each of the Stewards (for the Time being) one ; which they shall be obliged to bring with them, or send (if they cannot attend) every *Thursday* Evening by Nine o'Clock, on Forfeiture of *Five Shillings* to the Stock ; and such Steward who doth not give his Attendance every *Thursday* Evening by half an Hour past Eight o'Clock during his or their Stewardship, (notwithstanding he or they shall send his or their Key or Keys) shall forfeit *One Shilling* to the Stock, for each Night's Absence.

IV.

T H A T no Person shall be admitted a Member of this Society, who is not a Master

ter in his Trade or Profession, and a House-keeper; and that this Society consist of *Sixty One* Persons and no more; and that no Person shall be admitted a Member of this Society, who is above the Age of *Forty* Years: Nor shall any Person belonging to any other Benefit Society, be admitted into this, nor enter into any other so long as he belongs to this, on Forfeiture of all he has deposited in this Stock, and shall be excluded: The like Penalty shall be in force against any Member who shall impose on the Society, with respect to Age or otherwise.

V.

THAT no Person shall be admitted into this Society, who is, or has at any Time been afflicted with the Gout, Stone, or Asthma; but if, after Admission, it shall by sufficient Witness (on Oath if required) appear, that any Member has imposed on the Society in any of the said Particulars, he shall be absolutely excluded. And as the right Choice of Members is of the greatest Consequence to this Society, no Person shall be admitted a Member hereof, without the Consent of the Majority at two successive Meetings; but the Person proposed shall not be present. It is desired and expected that every Member will be careful and cautious in the Recommenda-

tion of any Person hereto, and that they strictly enquire whether the Person they recommend is (or has at any Time been) afflicted with any of the said Disorders.

VI.

THAT no second Person of any particular Trade or Profession shall be admitted a Member of this Society, without the Consent of the first: But if it should happen that two Persons of any particular Trade or Profession should be proposed at one Time, they shall draw Lots who shall have the Preference, unless they agree to come in together.

VII.

THAT no Member be entitled to any Benefit from this Society, until he hath paid to the Stock Eighteen Kalendar Months; after which if he happens to fall Sick, Lame, or Blind, so as to be incapable of following his Business or Employment, and shall acquaint the Stewards for the Time being with his Misfortune (in Writing); they, or either of them shall, with all convenient Speed, Visit the sick Member, and if his Case appears to be really as represented, the said Stewards shall pay him Weekly *Twenty Shillings* out of the Stock, until he shall be capable of following his usual Employment; unless

unless his Illness continues above Three Months, and there is no Probability of his being cured : In this Case, such sick Member may remove to some convenient Place for Air and Cheapness, and a Method shall be taken to return him a Weekly Allowance of *Twelve Shillings* till his Recovery or Death, without any Deduction towards the Support of the Box in either Case.

N. B. The Steward or Stewards shall Visit the sick Member twice in every Week ; and they, or one of them, shall himself carry the sick Member's Money, under the Forfeiture of *Five Shillings* to be paid by the Steward so neglecting. But the Stewards shall not be obliged to attend any Member, unless he resides within the Bills of Mortality.

VIII.

THAT if any Member (after having received the Allowance of *Twenty Shillings* from the Box, ten or eleven Weeks successively) should declare off, and in a short Time afterwards again declare on the Box, if it can be proved that he was Sick at the Time he declared off the Box, and that he by that means fraudulently intended to evade the Intent and Meaning of the foregoing Article, he shall be excluded this Society.

IX.

THAT if any Member falls Sick, Lame, or Blind, too far for the Stewards

to visit him, he shall (upon sending a fair Report of his Case, drawn up and attested by the Person who attends him, and by the Minister and Churchwardens of the Place where he then resides) have the Weekly Allowance as aforesaid, paid to his Order here in *London*.

X.

T H A T if any Member after he has declared upon the Box, shall be seen by the Steward or Stewards, or any other Member or Members of this Society, or by any other Person or Persons, playing at any Game whatever, at any Public-House, Coffee-House, or Tavern, and such Fact being plainly proved to the Satisfaction of the Members then present at the Declaration thereof, such Member shall be excluded this Society.

XI.

T H A T if any Member shall at any Time be afflicted with the Venereal Disease, he shall not have any Weekly Allowance out of the Box.

XII.

T H A T if any Member's Sickness, Lameness, or Blindness, comes by Fighting or Quarreling, and it be plainly proved that he began, or gave the Provocation, such

such Member shall have no Weekly Allowance from the Box: But if the same shall end with Death, the Sum of *Thirty five* Pounds shall be paid in the same Way and Manner as directed in the eighteenth and nineteenth Articles, or Orders, which relate to the Death of Members.

XIII.

T H A T if it shall at any Time appear that any Member of this Society shall by any Contrivance whatever endeavour to deceive, defraud, or impose upon the Society, by any false Pretences of being indisposed, and shall not really be so, and shall be detected in any such Fraud, Deceit, or Imposition, by the Testimony of two credible Witnesses. — Or, if any Member shall be detected as aforesaid in actually occupying, exercising, or following his Trade, Business, or Employment in Person, while he doth receive the Benefit of this Society; then, and in either of these Cases, he shall be absolutely excluded, and never re-admitted.

N. B. That no Member shall be excluded for the abovementioned, or any other Cause whatever, without the Consent of the Majority at two successive Meetings, and the Members to be summoned once only, unless the Affair in Question is carried the second Night against the Majority on the first, or the Night such Affair was proposed;

ed ; in such Case there shall be a second general Summons issued.

XIV.

THAT for the Good of this Society in general, and of every Member in particular, and in order to prevent, as much as may be, any Member from being wrongfully, fraudulently, or maliciously excluded the Society, upon the Report of any Steward or Member as aforesaid, through any Ill-will, Malice, Hatred, or Revenge ; all Reports relating to the Indisposition or pretended Indisposition of any Member of this Society, shall (if required and insisted upon, either by the Member so indisposed, or pretending to be so indisposed, or by any other Member or Members of this Society, but not otherwise) be made in Writing, and be subscribed and sworn to by the Person who shall make such Report, before any one shall be excluded thereupon : — and that the Expence incurred by reducing such Report into Writing, and of making Oath of the Truth thereof, shall be paid by the Member so indisposed, or pretending to be so indisposed, if the same be insisted upon by him, and done at his Request ; but if the same be insisted upon, and done at the Request of any other Member, then such Expence shall be paid out of the Stock.

XV.

XV.

T H A T if any Member has good Reason to suspect, that any Steward or Stewards are too favourable in his or their Report to the Society, of the Indisposition or pretended Indisposition of any Member, or that any such Steward or Stewards do connive at and conceal any Indisposition, or pretended Indisposition of any Member, or do not give a true, just, and faithful Account and Report thereof to the Society, from any Partiality to, Affection for, or Hopes of Gain from such Member so indisposed, or pretending to be so indisposed; Then, at the Request or Desire of such Member or Members so suspecting, or of any other Member, such Report shall be made in Writing, and signed and sworn to by the Steward or Stewards who are to make the Report, and that the Charge thereof shall be paid out of the Stock.

XVI.

T H A T if any Steward or Stewards, or other Person being a Member, shall neglect or refuse to make such Reports in Writing as aforesaid, or to sign or swear thereto (being thereunto required, for the Causes, and in the Manner aforesaid) he, or they neglecting or refusing so to do, shall be, and is hereby fined *Ten Shillings and Sixpence* to be paid into the Stock.

XVII.

XVII.

THAT if the Steward or Stewards should be doubtful of the Indisposition of any Member, or suspect that such Member's Illness is feigned, with design to impose on, and receive the Benefit of the Society, in such Case (by Direction of the Stewards) the Apothecary or Surgeon of, or belonging to the Society (if any) or such other Person of the Faculty, whom the Society shall appoint, shall visit the said indisposed, or pretendedly indisposed Member with all convenient Speed, and shall strictly enquire and examine into the true State of the Affair, and make an impartial Report thereof to the Society (in Writing) at the next Club Night, for which Trouble he shall be paid *Ten Shillings and Sixpence* out of the Stock.

XVIII.

THAT upon the Death of any Member of this Society, the Sum of ~~Thirty~~ *forty* Pounds shall be paid to such Person or Persons as he shall by Will in Writing, (or verbally in the Presence of two Witnesses) or by any Writing under his Hand appoint: Which Sum shall not be liable to any Incumbrance, but merely for the better Support of the Widow, Children, Relations, or Friends of the Deceased: And that a farther Sum of *Five Pounds* be paid by

by the Stewards (to a proper Person) towards defraying his Funeral Charges; but no Member shall be obliged to attend his Corpse.

XIX.

T H A T if any Member happens to die intestate, the aforesaid *Forty Pounds* shall be paid to his Widow (if any) otherwise to his Children lawfully begotten, share and share alike: But in Default of both, the Stewards shall consult the Society, and get the best Information they can about his Relations, and be determined by the Majority, whether the whole *Thirty Pounds* shall be paid to one or more of his Relations. But this Matter shall be determined and the Money paid, within one Month after his Decease.

But if it should happen through unforeseen Accidents, Sicknefs, Death, &c. that the Stock of this Society should be reduced to *Three Hundred and fifty Pounds*, then each Member shall pay *One Shilling* Weekly to the Stock: And if afterwards the Stock should be so much exhausted as to be insufficient to make good the Payments before-mentioned; the Stewards shall summon all the Members, and desire their Attendance the next Night of Meeting, to consult the best Method for preserving the Box and doing Justice to the Members, either by contributing

tributing equally to its present Support, or stopping Payment for a Time, &c. This and all other Acts to be determined by the Majority, at two successive Meetings.

XX.

T H A T a Trust of three Persons of the Society shall be chosen (the two Stewards for the Time being shall likewise be of the Trust) to place out at Interest such Sum or Sums of Money as shall belong to the Society ; and that on the Demise of any of the said Trustees, others shall be immediately chose to fill up Vacancies ; and that the Stewards for the Time being, with one or more of the said Trustees, shall receive such Interest as shall become due to the Society, on Bonds or other Securities, and shall immediately place the said Interest Money, (with the Bonds or other Securities) into the Box.

XXI.

A N D whereas many well-intended Societies have suffered much through the Cunning of ill-designing Persons, who have taken Advantage of their not being inrolled in Chancery, and have thereby evaded the Payment of such Sums of Money as they were justly indebted to the Society ; which Inrollment being very chargeable, to avoid the Expence thereof, we do hereby agree, That whatever Money shall
be

be placed out at Interest, the Trustees shall take the Security in their own Names, and give the Society a Declaration of Trust, which, with the Security, shall be lodged in the Box; and that this, and all other necessary Expences, shall be paid out of the Stock.

XXII.

T H A T there be no Gaming, Wagers, Party Disputes, Obscene Discourse, Oaths, or Drunkenness, allowed during the Hours of the Society's Meeting, under the Forfeiture of *One Shilling* to be paid by the offending Person into the Stock; and in the last Case, the Stewards shall admonish him to retire to his Habitation: And that in Case any Dispute shall arise in the Club Room, on any Club Night, either before, or in Club Hours, or afterwards, and such Dispute shall produce Blows, each Person striking shall be equally fined *One Guinea*, to be paid into the Stock; and in Case only one Person strike, he only shall be fined *One Guinea* and the other excused, unless it appears to the Satisfaction of the Members present, that the Person who did not strike was the Aggressor; in that Case he shall be fined the same as the striking Member.

XXIII.

T H A T the Landlord of the House who shall have the Custody of the Box,
give

give a Bond of *Two Hundred Pounds*, (or such other Security as the Society shall approve) for producing the Box, with the Effects belonging to it, every Night of Meeting, to the Stewards, &c. at the usual Time. But this Society shall not be held at the House of any Member belonging thereunto.

XXIV.

THAT no Lottery Tickets shall be bought or paid for out of the Society's Stock on any Pretence whatsoever. And that there shall be no Addition to, or Diminution of any of these Orders, or any new ones made, without the Consent of the Majority at two successive Meetings, and the Members to be summoned. Moreover it is unanimously agreed, that this Society shall not be dissolved, whilst *Twenty One* Members shall agree to support and continue it.

XXV.

THAT no Motion shall be made, on any Business whatsoever, after Ten o'Clock: And that every Member on changing his Place of Abode, shall give Notice (in Writing) to one of the Stewards within Fourteen Days of such Removal, on the Forfeiture of *One Shilling* to the Stock, and that every Member shall give his personal Attendance once in three Months, on the
For-

Forfeiture of *Two Shillings and Sixpence* to be likewise paid into the Stock; unless he is prevented by some reasonable Impediment, to be deemed so by the Majority of the Members then present.

XXVI.

THAT a Secretary shall be chosen annually to keep the Society's Books, and fill up Summonses, for which he shall receive *Threepence* from each Member Quarterly, and that *Threepence* be paid the said Secretary for every single Summons (by the Member summoned, on Account of his sixth Night's Absence) which Summons he himself shall deliver or forfeit *One Shilling*; and the said Secretary shall deliver (or cause to be delivered) all general Summonses, for which he shall be paid *Three Shillings* out of the Stock; but if the aforesaid Secretary doth not give constant Attendance at half an Hour past Eight o'Clock to perform his Office, he shall for every such Neglect (except in Case of Sicknes) forfeit *One Shilling*, and for neglecting to deliver a general Summons he shall forfeit *Three Shillings*: But shall not be obliged to deliver any Summons beyond the Bounds of the Bills of Mortality.

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B

Members

Members Names.

Entrance.

1751.

Mar. 14

N^o 1.

Dead 1. Joseph Forfitt, Apothecary, Carter Lane.

Dead

2. William Woodgate, Upholder, Little St. Helens, Bishopsgate-street.

1

3. Nathaniel Paine, Peruke-Maker, Dolphin Inn Yard, without Bishopsgate.

Dead

4. John Jennion, Plane-maker, Queens-street, Cheap-side.

2

5. George Bird, Book-keeper, Bishopsgate-street.

3

6. Thomas Cruttenden, Painter, Garlick-Hythe.

4

7. Rudolph Sumfield, Taylor, ~~Friday-street~~ *Trinity Lane*

Dead

8. ~~William Gaster, Carpenter~~, Garlick-Hythe.

5 21.

6

9. John Hawkins, Cabinet-maker, ~~Creed-Lane~~ *Hunsington Square*

10. John

Amendments Explanations &c.
since this Book was printed.

Feb 4 2. 1758. N.B. of 13th Article explain'd
That a general Summons shall be
first Issued, before any Matter shall
be once determined, which Summons
is meant to serve, the 2 succeeding
Club Nights.

June 8. 1758. Resolved.

That 3 Months allow'd for the pay-
ment of 20s. weekly to a sick Member,
shall be considered as 13 Weeks, in
Case any Member shall continue on
the Box so long.

April 12. 1759 Resolved.

That no Member whilst he is charge-
able to the Society shall remove into
the Country, when afflicted either with
the Gout, or Stone.

May 1. 1760. Resolved.

That Forty & five pounds be paid,
on the Death of a Member, in the
same Manner as L35. has been
heretofore paid.